

Appl. No. 10/650,360
Amdt. dated April 24, 2006
Response to Election/Restriction

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-53 were pending in this application and are subject to a restriction requirement.

Restriction to one of the following groups is requested:

Group I: Claims 1-9 (~~←should be claim 8~~), 18-25, 35-42, and 52; and

Group II: Claims 9-17, 26-34, 43-51, and 53.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant elects, without traverse, the claims in Group I (i.e., claims 1-8, 18-25, 35-42, and 52) for further prosecution in this application. Claims in Group II (claims 9-17, 26-34, 43-51, and 53) have accordingly been withdrawn without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the claims in Group II in divisional applications. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-8, 18-25, 35-42, and 52 remain pending in this application. Claims 9-17, 26-34, 43-51, and 53 have been withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

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